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Name Elizabeth Jarvis Johnston Graduation year 1935

Today's date: September 28 1991

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

It was chosen for me by my dear father. I finished grade 12, spent a year or so in Switzerland, came home and did what a lot of my friends were doing, that useful thing of coming out. We were no good for anybody, we did a lot of volunteer work. My sister had always wanted to go to MES. This was during the depression. My sister was three years younger than I was. And father came up to the summer cottage we had rented for a month, he came up for the weekend. I had a bow up for the weekend. And we had dinner, then he delved into his pocket and he said here is your train ticket to Algonquin Park Station, my eyes opened widely, and he said, you are now enroled in MES. I didn't say boo. Can you imagine a teen ager in this day and age doing this. I went to Camp Tanamakoon. I was there for a week. Sprained my ankle and they sent me home. It was a great experience and I feel awful lucky that father forced me into it... We got a ride in each day with father. It was not a disadvantage to not be living in the residence. Not a bit. It was up to each individual. I lived in Toronto all my life and I had my friends here.

II. What alternatives did you consider?

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

The camaraderie that was there. I enjoyed the staff. If I had to teach anything. If I had to get a job, though girls did not work in those days. I can't think of anything else I would want to teach but PE. I could not imagine being cooped up in a class and teaching math or something.

Mary Hamilton had opened the school I think. It used to be art and something else. My sister in law, who is quite a bit older than I, attended when it was the other kind of school.

Sterndale Bennett was doing public speaking. "What of the trees? The something was made of blue water" I don't know anymore.

[Mrs. John Creighton] Doesn't ring a bell.

[Thornton Mustard] Oh yes, he taught psychology. Only one term. I don't think we learned much psychology.

[Charlotte Kaulback] Yea. She was married a couple of years after I finished. She died not long ago. She was a real stern teacher. She was a wonderful teacher. You didn't crack a smile

in her class. She taught Swedish gymnastics and figure skating at Varsity Arena.

[Kathleen Pepler] She taught dancing when my sister was there.

[Charlotte Layton] She knew everything. She was wonderful. She could have filled you in with anything under the sun.

[Student names] [Norah Bannister] I haven't a clue [Helen Cummings] No [Margaret Ferguson] she came from Winnipeg. A very nice gal but I have no idea what happened to her. [Some graduates received a diploma, others a certificate, do what the difference would be?] No, nor do I know what I got [diploma]. [Betty Gilcrest] Was the niece of Miss Edgar who ran Camp GlenBurnhart where I went to camp as a kid. Miss Edgar was super person. [Margaret Gurd] was from Montreal. I don't know what happened to her. [Lucielle Kirk] No [Mary Leask] She was from the west somewhere but I don't have any idea. [Della McFarland] No. [Kay Mackenziel] Big. No idea. [Molly Maw] I used to see and she lived up in the north part of the city. [MacEvoy] No idea what happened to her. [Greta Pawles] I don't even remember the name. [Georgie Reed - I have a question mark behind her name.] Keep your question mark. Does not ring a bell at all. [Margaret Robinson] These are names I haven't thought of in a million years. 45 years. I have been a widow for as long as I have been married. My husband died 24 years ago just before we would have been married 25 years. Makes it kind of rough. I never re-married, never wanted to. We had a boy and girl. I am lucky the boy is here in Toronto and my daughter lives in Kitchener. [Leona Seagram] Leona was first class. Always first. She could do anything, physically, mentally, I must say I took second to her in the academic part. After I graduated, I guess after I was married. The call went out to teach exercise to the probies at Sick Kids Hospital. This was the old hospital on College Street. Twice a week at four o'clock in the afternoon. They came off duty. They had been on since six or seven o'clock. They were dead on their feet. The first person I ran into was Leona Seagram. Hear I was teaching a person that had been first in my class in everything. She came from Barrie. I don't think she was related to the Seagram family - distillers. She received the gold medal. I had to teach the gold medallists. [Betty Snell] I have kept up with though we have not seen each other in a million years, and she lives in Ottawa. We exchanged Christmas cards until two years ago when I didn't get a card. I heard that she had cancer. So I fear that Betty is gone. She married and had one child. [Phyllis White] A lot of fun. She came from Barrie or somewhere. I haven't seen her. I kept contact with a few. I attended a couple of reunions though I am not sure whether they were BSS or MES.

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

Anatomy classes were quite a few years ago. We were the first ones to have anatomy in the medical building. When Miss Hamilton was principal of the school. I can remember walking in finding the room, opening the door, and there was a stiff laid out. I took a deep breath and approached it. Some of the students walked in, turned bright green and quickly left. We worked on the stiffes. Had to know the body, and we had to know what the muscles did. It was a very good thing to have.

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

We were absolutely exhausted. It was too much in two years. They were very busy two years. It was too heavy a course for two years. Looking back. You were just dead tired at the end of two years. The physical classes and theory classes. About half the time was spent in each. And we had two minutes to change from our exercise uniform or tunic, a sort of bloomer thing, that you wore for swedish exercises, to get back up to the gym. If you were late you were punished in some way. They were very strict and you had to move very very quickly. You might have to stay in and do something.

The worst thing was to play ground hockey in Ramsden Park. We used to have to lug all our stuff up there and we'd play till the snow fell. I hated it. I didn't like ground hockey anyways.

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

Somers came in 34.

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

I think it would be about 50/50 in terms of public/private schools.

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?

I taught at Mildreds which is now St Mildred's Lightborn in Oakville. I taught there for two years. I lived on Spadina road

just south of St. Clair and I walked up and down those steps at Casa Loma down to St. Mildreds and those steps at the end of the day were quite something. After that I taught at my old school BSS for six years. I was married when I was there, in March and finished off the year. It was after that that I taught the probies a sick kids hospital.

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why?

No. Just being a mother. I learned a lot doing that.

XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

A. Your year of birth: 1913

B. Your country of birth: Canada Toronto

C. Country of mother's birth: Newfoundland

D. Country of father's birth: Canada

E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?

Mother's occupation: Homemaker

Father's occupation: Bought a farm at Lorne Park which we travelled to by horse and carriage back in 1913 when I was six months old. I was born in a house on Russel Hill Road - it was the only house on the street and is a rather prestigious street today. My grandmother built a house on Yonge Street, why I will never know. Between Roxborough and Macpherson Ave. It was considered the most beautiful and authentic Georgian House in the city. We used to come in from the farm and rent somewhere in the vicinity of Roxborough so we could be near her. Her house was a funeral home and looks exactly the same except they took the green fence down.

F. Where were you living before coming to MES?

City: Toronto

Province: Ontario Country: Canada

G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?

Bishop SS

What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 12

Was this a private or public school? private

H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 19

Married to: (name) Johnston

Occupation of husband when married:

XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my
abstract when I complete my study? yes

When you are all finished MES students should get a copy of the
entire paper. We would pay you for it. Don't leave it too long.
We're getting older.

Address correct. I am contemplating a move.... in Toronto.

My halo is pinching - sending this back by
return mail
H.

Name Helen Hurd

Graduation year 1936

Today's date: February¹⁰ 1992

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

1. I was thoroughly fed up with high school
and couldn't face 4 yrs of University.

2. I was absolutely enthralled by a demonstration
of the M. S. S. students at Varsity arena - Spring '35

II. What alternatives did you consider?

none seriously

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

Camp Tanamakoon Sept '34 - D.A.C., Sept '35
Modern dance classes and the Modern
Dance recital given at Hart House. May '36
Miss Gray's music for these classes (over)
Friendships & fun

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

Ye gods! - Anatomy - you've read the soggy
notes in D.N.R. Jackson's booklet.
The locker room was somewhat crowded
when two years (40 students) occupied it along with
all their accoutrements (red over)

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

Modern dance, gymnastics (the
lyrical type i.e. - German gymnastics
Sally Creighton's English classes

Folk dancing, field hockey, figure skating
History of Physical Education

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

Well I mentioned anatomy! Some dials were a bit boring. I liked free form gymnastics but not apparatus work. Which was much different than from now.

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

Miss Somers was kind & good but rather formal. We used to chuckle at her expression "Don't goof" said seriously. Didn't know the board.

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

I think most student's tuition was paid by parents. Summer jobs wouldn't put a nick in the fees. I think there were one or two scholar-

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

For a couple of years in the 50's I was available
President of the Alumnae which was an active group for a while. But the jobs & turmoil of
X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?
ready living - several moves of a body to different cities.

Working with a local recreation track committee to lead teen dances teaching some round dances & ceding squares. Teaching swimming.

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why?

Graduated from Queen's University B.A. in 1974. Was teaching ship ed. English in high school on a letter of Permission (baby boom years) and had to work on a degree. Enjoyed it greatly.

XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- A. Your year of birth: 19 14
- B. Your country of birth: Canada
- C. Country of mother's birth: Canada
- D. Country of father's birth: Canada
- E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?
- Mother's occupation: housewife
- Father's occupation: salesman
- F. Where were you living before coming to MES?
- City: Toronto
- Province: Ontario Country: Canada
- G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?
- Riverdale Collegiate Toronto
- What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 12
- Was this a private or public school? Public
- H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 19 42
- Married to: (name) Kelman Vizek
- Occupation of husband when married: Teacher of Physical Education Y.M.C.A.

- XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? yes please

Could you list other addresses than from the class of 39, and 41, or do you know of MES students who have passed on? From 1936 I have addresses and correspondence from Helen Fiebig, Margaret Ross, Eleanor Keyes, Barbara McAreal, Netta Morrison, and Murial Sinclair. In total I have heard from 70 graduates.

I'm sorry I cannot help with other addresses Marg. Ross is the only person I've renewed contact with. But I'd love to have the addresses of any '36 grads.

Maiden Name Margaret Ross Graduation year 1936

Today's date: Jan. 1991

I. Why did you choose to study at MES?

① It was the only Physical Education course available.
Correction - Ne Gill had a course, so the one registrant, Ellen Sovereign,
came to M.E.S. ② Jean Duncan the P.E. at the Y.W. was a graduate.

II. What alternatives did you consider?

None

III. What are some of your fondest memories of being a student at MES?

Living in residence, a home belonging to the
Eaton family

IV. What are some of your worst memories of being a student at MES?

Being fined \$1 for going across Yonge St. without
hat and gloves.

V. With respect to your course work what are some of your fondest memories?

Camping and canoe trips at Ganamakoon

VI. With respect to your course work what are some of your worst memories?

Practise teaching each week at a public school where we
had to change clothes in a cubicle in the staff room which
was part of the staff room. Silence ruled when we were in that room.

VII. What do you remember about the school's principal and board?

Florence Somers, the daughter of a Boston Newspaper publisher
used grammar we considered wrong "Do it good girls"

VIII. How do you think most student's paid for their education at MES [summer jobs, parents paid....]?

Parents paid. I have never heard of any other way.

IX. In what ways have you kept in touch with alumnae of MES?

By letter and visits Helen Liebig Bennett.
Helen Hurd Visely 908 Royal Orchard St. Ottawa Ont.
L.K. 2A.

X. What kind of work/volunteer activities did you do as a result of your education at MES?

Ran a G. I. I. Camp
Coached a H. Sc. Basketball team

XI. Did you pursue further education following MES? Where? Why?

Normal School, Moose Jaw, Sask. because I wanted
to teach in the public school system.

XII. PERSONAL BACKGROUND:

- A. Your year of birth: 19 15
- B. Your country of birth: Canada
- C. Country of mother's birth: Canada
- D. Country of father's birth: Canada
- E. When you entered MES what occupations did your parents have?

Mother's occupation: Housewife

Father's occupation: Engineer

- F. Where were you living before coming to MES?

City: Moose Jaw

Province: Sask. Country: Canada

- G. Which school did you attend prior to entering MES?

Central Collegiate Moose Jaw

What grade (level) did you complete at this school? 12

Was this a private or public school? Public

- H. If you married, which year did you first do so: 19 53

Married to: (name) _____

Occupation of husband when married: _____

- XIII. Would you be interested in receiving a copy of my abstract when I complete my study? Yes

Could you list other addresses than from the class of 39, and 41, or do you know of MES students who are deceased? In total I have heard from 68 graduates.



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